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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Tsuneo MAKI, Tomiyoshi MISUMI, Kiyoshi TSUKAMURA, Yohichi ITOH and Hideo AOKI

Serial No. : Not Yet Known Int'l Appl'n No.: PCT/JP2004/013865

Date Filed : Concurrently Herewith Int'l Filing Date: 15 September 2004

For: BELT CONVEYANCE APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS USING SUCH A BELT CONVEYANCE APPARATUS

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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, filed concurrently herewith, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The subject application is a U.S. national phase application under 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP2005/013865. Some of the items listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 were cited in the International Search Report and/or Written Opinion in connection with International Application No. PCT/JP2005/013865. Copies of the International Search Report and/or Written Opinion are submitted concurrently herewith.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or

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exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.


The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 27, 2005

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